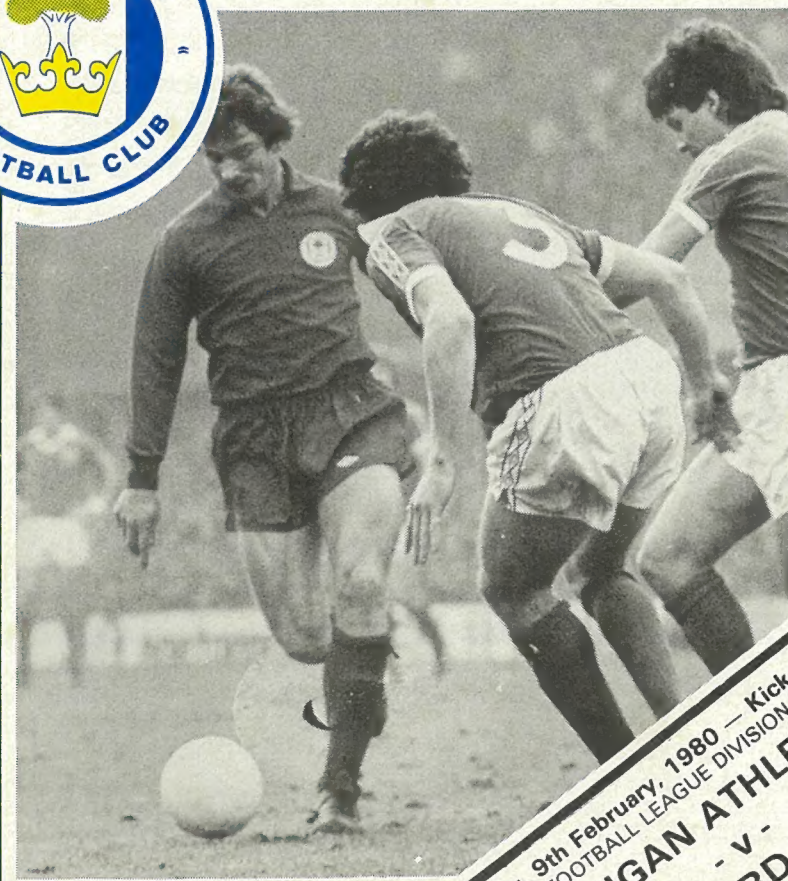


# WIGAN ATHLETIC



Official Programme

20p

Saturday, 9th February, 1980 — Kick-off 3.00 p.m.  
FOOTBALL LEAGUE DIVISION FOUR  
**WIGAN ATHLETIC**  
- v -  
**HEREFORD UNITED**

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# Club Directory

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VICE-CHAIRMAN:  
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TEAM MANAGER:  
Mr. I.M. McNeill.

COMMERCIAL MANAGER:  
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Our front page pic this issue shows  
Wigan's George Urquhart in action at  
Goodison Park. (Photo by courtesy of the  
Wigan Observer).

# Personally Speaking

by Ian McNeill



GOOD EVENING  
ALL, a warm wel-  
come to Frank Lord  
and his Hereford  
side. At present in  
the lower regions of  
the league, Frank  
has taken over from  
Mike Bailey, and is  
still in the process of  
settling in. However,  
they have had a few  
good results lately

and we will have to work extremely hard to get  
both points today.

### Momentum

After our Cup exit at Everton, I was a little  
apprehensive about going back to the stark  
reality of League football at York. Our  
previous three games drew great attendances  
15,000 at Portsmouth, 22,000 at Chelsea and  
then over 51,000 at Everton and I was a little  
worried about reaction to be playing in front of  
2,500 at York, but the lads soon dispelled my  
fears and two wonderful victories have  
ensued. This has pushed us right into the  
promotion chase and you can be sure we will  
be giving everything in our power to get there.  
I would like to say here and now, that our fans  
have been magnificent, and I was very, very  
proud at Goodison Park. It has proved one  
thing to me, the quicker we get to the big time,  
the better, because I am sure we will be able  
to have the crowds turn out every week.

Enjoy today's game.

*Ian McNeill*

# WELCOME TO



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Photograph courtesy of the Evening Post & Chronicle



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# HEREFORD UNITED

TODAY'S visitors to Springfield Park have experienced but seven and a half seasons of life in the Football League, yet in that short space of time Hereford United have not only experienced the joys of promotion from the Fourth to the Third Division, and from the Third to the Second Division, but also the heartbreak of relegation from the dizzy heights of the Second Division back down again to the Fourth Division in two disastrous seasons between 1976 and 1978.

The "United's" F.A. Cup exploits were legendary as a non-league club, when for twenty-one successive seasons teams from Edgar Street reached the First Round Proper of the F.A. Cup Competition. Indeed, it was a series of giant-killing feats which provided Hereford United with the platform from which they launched their successful bid for League Membership in 1972.

Having gained admission, it took only one season for Hereford United to gain promotion to the Third Division and between 1973 and 1976, with ace marksman Dixie McNeil in their ranks, the Edgar Street club consolidated before stepping up again. However, the cost of the venture and subsequent relegation rapidly undid previous good work, and, in no time at all, Hereford United was back where it had all started in the Fourth Division and the task of picking up the pieces and rebuilding the empire began. Life has not been easy of late for the West Country club, but Edgar Street is a neatly laid out, well-

organised ground which will surely again experience a higher grade of football in the very near future. As ever, the off-the-field activities of Hereford United are capably and positively controlled, and under their new manager Frank Lord, a renowned fighter, success will eventually come "United's" way. However, the club could really use the more active support of residents in the area through the turnstiles, if an improvement in status is to be achieved and maintained.

Last year's two league fixtures between Hereford United and Wigan Athletic ended in goal-less draws, and, although Hereford gained a 2-1 victory over Wigan at Edgar Street in September, Wigan fans are hoping that their team will continue the good run which has seen the Athletic gain nineteen points from their last eleven league fixtures. However, past experience has shown that the men wearing the white shirts of Hereford United can never be underestimated, and we can anticipate a close, unrelenting struggle for supremacy between two clubs who have always been well-matched in the past.

Welcome then to the Hereford United Football Club and its supporters. It has always been a privilege to exchange greetings and indulge in friendly rivalry. We trust you will enjoy your visit to Springfield Park today, and, after a good sporting contest, we wish you a safe journey home tonight to the very lovely country area in which your club is situated.

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## THE GOODISON SAGA

IT WAS a Goodison battle royal, football it were magic,  
But when McBride put ball in t'net, what could I say, it were tragic.  
But back came t'lads, with heads held high,  
We showed 'em how to play,  
And Tommy had a crackin' shot that wasn't far away.  
The game it flowed from end to end, atmosphere was thrilling,  
But ball would not go in their net, as hard as we were willing.  
At half time we still had a chance, score were still one-nought,  
And for quarter'an hour of t'second half we'd score for sure, we thought,  
Then t'Beast upset Bob Latchford, why I don't rightly know,  
Cause Bob he turned straight into Neil and crumbled to the floor.  
Still we kept on coming, we threw everything we had,  
But then we lost Joe Hinnigan, his injury looked real bad.  
So with the team reshuffled we had another try,  
And Houghton turned and hit a shot that was just a bit too high.  
Then the "Blues" went and spoiled it from a corner they did score,  
The ball came over from their left and Latchford up did soar.

Still we did not panic, football we did play,  
Their goalie out to Urquhart came and got the ball away.  
Then from a free-kick Tommy shot and a cheer rose from the host,  
It beat their goalie all ends up but just went wide o't' post,  
Then Kidd struck with a rocket shot that no one could have saved,  
And off he went on his victory run and to the fans he waved.  
After getting booked for upsetting t'ref, Kidd could not hold his wrath,  
And after flooring poor Neil Davids, ref sent him for an early bath.  
Still the reds kept running as a goal they sought,  
But effort after effort only came to nought.  
Then t'ref the final whistle blew and all the Everton fans said "Phew!"  
"Thank God that's over", one fan said, and off he went for a pint or two.  
The Lads they really did us proud and off they went with a cheer.  
So look out Everton, because we might come back next year.  
Fred Rigby, Highfield, Wigan.

---

Today's match is sponsored by Micron Electrical Company of Gidlow Lane, Wigan, specialists in TV Rentals.

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# Lancashire League Scene

by Fred Eyre

WE have hopefully now completed, what is becoming an annual layoff at this time of the season. With frozen pitches, waterlogged pitches, F.A. Cup ties etc. Up to last Saturday, the reserve team had not played a game since just before Christmas, when we won 3-0 at Southport.

The difficulty of such a situation is ensuring that hard worked for fitness, attained during the season, is not lost during this spell of inactivity, and that a touch of boredom does not creep into the training, in view of the fact that there is no game to look forward to on the Saturday.

Any fears I had in this direction were dispelled on Saturday when we completely outplayed a useful-looking Chester side and finished worthy 5-1 winners.

The whole side played magnificently with Pop Freeman, playing his first game this season after his serious injury, looking back to his best, and Alan Greenhalgh capping a superb performance with a coolly taken goal to finish off a move which went from

goalkeeper Bob Ward almost through the whole team, for a goal of which any team would have been proud.

Added to this was the impressive first performance of Davie McMullen, a young lad from Scotland, who opened the scoring and generally had an extremely good first game.

Before the lay off we were sitting nicely at the top of the league, but other teams have been playing whilst we have not, so we have slipped a little, but a few more performances like last Saturday's will soon put us back among the front-runners.

## Congratulations

Today Messrs. Michael Moss, Tom Bracken and Colin Beavers (the Wigan Athletic Supporters Club Quiz Team) will receive the BBC Radio Manchester Top Score Quiz Shield.

Our thanks to the boys for their magnificent effort and to Mr. Martin Henfield (BBC) for making the presentation.

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# Player Profile



## RON MacIVOR (Midfield)

RON MACIVOR attended Longstone Primary School and Carrickvale Secondary School as a youngster in Edinburgh. He remembers, with affection, that he gained his first honour at the starry-eyed age of ten years, when his school won the Edinburgh Primary Schools' Cup. From an early age, Ron was also a useful boxer, and he won Scottish Amateur Titles at the 14, 15 and 16 years age levels, before deciding to concentrate on football.

As a Junior, MacIvor played for Peebles Rovers and Bonnyrigg Rose Juniors and Season 1972 — 1973 was made particularly memorable for Ron when he picked up a Scottish Junior Cup Final runners-up medal. Eventually signed up by East Fife, he made his debut in a friendly game against Sheffield Wednesday, but his biggest thrill was to play against the mighty Rangers at Ibrox Stadium.

Like many players in Scotland, Ron MacIvor played his football part-time, while holding down a full-time occupation. Ron had started work as an Apprentice

Electrician at the age of sixteen and served his time passing through various grades to become an Approved Electrician working with Scottish and Newcastle Breweries. It was the realisation of a long-cherished ambition when he accepted full-time terms with a Soccer club — Wigan Athletic.

At East Fife, Ron performed well in a variety of roles, playing up front, in midfield and at full-back with distinction. His courage and his love of an attacking game helped to put Ron MacIvor among the Bayview Club's goalscorers. His will to win guaranteed him a regular place with 'The Fifers'.

Although the gritty Scot has had to wait patiently in the wings while the current Wigan Athletic side has enjoyed its recent run of success, his attitude has been first-class and there is little doubt that, in the very near future, as the promotion race heats up, Ron's services will be needed and he will not be found wanting when the call eventually comes.

One of four sport-minded brothers, he enjoys fishing and all kinds of music. He once had private tuition and played with the Boys' Brigade — on the bagpipes!!

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# A TASTE OF

Photograph by courtesy of the Wigan Observer



**ABOVE:**  
Derek Brownbill just fails to  
apply the finishing touch.

**TOP RIGHT:**  
Everton goalkeeper, Martin  
Hodge, foils Frank Corrigan.

**BOTTOM RIGHT:**  
Wigan fans light up Good  
Park.

# Springfield Spotlight



# THE BIG TIME



Photograph by courtesy of the Wigan Observer



Photograph by courtesy of the Evening Post & Chronicle

NEW AND REBUILT

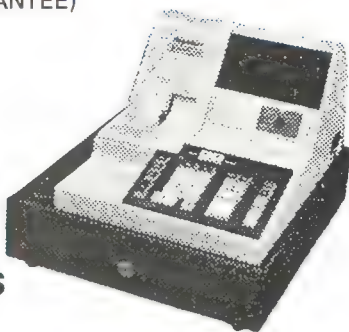
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# Down Memory Lane

by Harold Ashurst

WITH the last quarter of this season already looking likely to repeat the exciting climax we witnessed around Springfield Park last term, it is not problem selecting an outstanding game to refresh a few memories today.

In fact the match in question ought not to test memories all that much — it took place only twelve months ago — but the circumstances surrounding the game were remarkably similar to those prevailing prior to today's game.

The match was against Portsmouth at Springfield Park on February 3rd. It was Wigan's first game for almost a month due to the big freeze and people were wondering whether or not the enforced lay off would have affected Latics' chances of continuing the incredible run that had taken them right into the promotion scene. Pompey came to Wigan among the league leaders and were expected to put Latics' revival to their stiffest test to date.

What happened confirmed that Latics

had really arrived on the promotion scene. Portsmouth were beaten 2-0 but could count themselves lucky not to be humiliated by a Latics team that turned in one of the best performances they had produced since being admitted to the Fourth Division.

Jeff Wright gave Latics the lead with a close range shot under Mellor's legs and Frank Corrigan made it 2-0 with a brilliant goal seconds after half time.

Latics received a standing ovation at the end which was thoroughly deserved and Pompey trudged off the field wondering just what had hit them.

The Latics team was: Brown, Smart, Hinnigan, Gore, Ward, Fretwell, Corrigan, Wright, Houghton, Moore, Purdie, Sub. Brownbill.

Portsmouth: Mellor, Willis, Viney, Denyer, Foster, Davey, Hemmerman, Lathan, Garwood, McIlwraith, Pullar. Sub. Showers.

The match attendance was 8,289.

## LATICS AWAY

At Bradford City, Saturday, 16th February, 1980. Use M62 and A606 (M) (signposted Bradford) then at roundabout take 4th exit into Ring Road A6036 (signposted Keighley). In 4.8m at crossroads turn left A650. In 0.3m turn left into Valley Parade for Bradford City.

# Facts and Figures

Home fixtures in capitals.  
Wigan scores first.

Player scoring in bold.  
† Player substituted.

<sup>2</sup> Figure indicates no. of goals scored by player.  
<sup>\*</sup> In result column indicates opponents own goal.

DATE	FIXTURE	F	A	ATT.	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
Aug 11	Stockport FLC1	1	2	6,004	R Ward	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton <sup>1</sup>	Brownbill	Purdie	Urquhart
Aug 15	STOCKPORT FLC1	0	0	7,591	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Purdie	Moore
Aug 18	Darlington	2	2	2,063	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan <sup>1</sup>	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore <sup>1</sup>	Purdie	Davids
Aug 22	HUDDERSFIELD	1	2	6,927	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore <sup>1</sup>	Purdie	Brownbill
Aug 25	STOCKPORT COUNTY	2	1	3,837	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore <sup>1</sup>	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton <sup>1</sup>	Moore <sup>1</sup>	Purdie	N Ward
Sep 1	PORTSMOUTH	1	2	8,198	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	N Ward	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore <sup>1</sup>	Purdie	Urquhart
Sep 8	Bournemouth	2	1	4,390	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Hart	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdie	Brownbill <sup>1</sup>
Sep 15	YORK CITY	2	5	5,990	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan <sup>1</sup>	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart <sup>1</sup>
Sep 19	HARTLEPOOL	2	1	4,877	Shyne	Smart	Hinnigan	Gore	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton <sup>2</sup>	Purdie
Sep 22	Hereford United	1	2	3,891	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Purdie	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright <sup>1</sup>	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Urquhart
Sep 29	BRADFORD CITY	4	1	8,009	Shyne	Gore <sup>1</sup>	Hinnigan <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore <sup>1</sup>	Houghton <sup>1</sup>	Crompton
Oct 6	TORQUAY UNITED	3	3	6,541	Shyne	Gore	Hinnigan	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Crompton
Oct 9	Huddersfield Town	0	4	7,871	Brown	Gore	Hinnigan	Urquhart	Davids	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Moore	Houghton	Methven
Oct 13	Doncaster Rovers	1	3	4,169	Brown	MacIvor <sup>1</sup>	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Fretwell	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Moore	Purdie	Urquhart
Oct 20	LINCOLN CITY	2	1	5,454	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton <sup>1</sup>	Moore	Urquhart	A Quinn <sup>1</sup>
Oct 24	ROCHDALE	1	1	5,036	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart	Buckley
Oct 27	Newport County	2	3	4,910	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven <sup>1</sup>	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Buckley	A Quinn <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart	Smart
Nov 3	DARLINGTON	4	1	5,001	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan <sup>1</sup>	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart	Buckley
Nov 6	Rochdale	2	0	2,936	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton <sup>1</sup>	A Quinn <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart	Brownbill
Nov 17	SCUNTHORPE	4	1	4,618	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan <sup>1</sup>	Gore <sup>1</sup>	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart <sup>1</sup>	Moore
Nov 24	Blackpool F.A.C.1	1	1	11,277	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven <sup>1</sup>	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Nov 28	BLACKPOOL FAC18	2	0	14,589	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore <sup>1</sup>	Methven	Davids	Corrigan <sup>1</sup>	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 1	NORTHAMPTON	0	0	6,158	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 8	Walsall	1	1	5,261	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	A Quinn <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 21	CREWE	2	0	4,316	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore <sup>1</sup>	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright <sup>1</sup>	Houghton	Quinn	Urquhart	Moore
Dec 26	Peterborough	2	1	3,312	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore <sup>1</sup>	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Moore	Quinn <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart	Crompton
Dec 29	STOCKPORT	3	1	6,847	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright <sup>1</sup>	Moore	Quinn <sup>1</sup>	Urquhart	Brownbill
Jan 5	Northwich V FAC2	2	2	5,249	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore <sup>1</sup>	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Quinn	Urquhart	Brownbill
Jan 7	NORTHWICH V FAC2R	1	0	11,298	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Quinn	Urquhart	Brownbill <sup>1</sup>
Jan 12	Portsmouth	1	1	15,625	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Brownbill	Quinn	Urquhart	Houghton <sup>1</sup>
Jan 14	Chelsea FAC3	1	0	22,300	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore <sup>1</sup>	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn
Jan 26	Everton FAC4	0	3	51,863	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright	Houghton	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn
Feb 2	York City	2	1	2,400	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan <sup>1</sup>	Wright	Houghton <sup>1</sup>	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn
Feb 6	BOURNEMOUTH	2	1	5,904	Brown	Fretwell	Hinnigan	Gore	Methven	Davids	Corrigan	Wright <sup>1</sup>	Houghton <sup>1</sup>	Brownbill	Urquhart	Quinn
Feb 9	HEREFORD UNITED															
Feb 16	Bradford City															
Feb 23	DONCASTER															
Feb 25	Tranmere Rovers															
Feb 29	Lincoln City															
Mar 5	ALDERSHOT															
Mar 8	NEWPORT COUNTY															
Mar 14	Torquay United															
Mar 18	Halifax Town															
Mar 22	TRANMERE															
Mar 26	PORT VALE															
Mar 29	Scunthorpe United															
Apr 4	Crewe Alexandra															
Apr 5	PETERBOROUGH															
Apr 7	Port Vale															
Apr 12	HALIFAX TOWN															
Apr 15	Hartlepool United															
Apr 19	Northampton Town															
Apr 26	WALSALL															
May 3	Aldershot															

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Wigan Goalscorers up to 8th February, 1980. League goals (Cup goals in brackets).

Peter Houghton 10 (1), Tommy Gore 5 (3), Tony Quinn 8, Joe Hinnigan 5 (1), Jeff Wright 5, Derek Brownbill 2 (1), Frank Corrigan 2 (1), Micky Moore 3, Colin Methven 1 (1), George Urquhart 2, Ron MacIvor 1, Ian Purdie 1. One own goal by opponent.

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# Fourth Division Focus

by Chris Gill



IT IS very rare these days that clubs go in for a straight swap of players, but that is what Scunthorpe United and York City have done recently in moves involving their respective goalkeepers. York City took Graham Crawford for his second spell at Bootham Crescent, while Joe Neenan departed for the Old Show Ground.

Another goalkeeper on the move is Graham Horn, who was given a free transfer by Southend United and was immediately signed up by promotion hopefuls Aldershot.

It also turns out that former Everton and Watford goalkeeper Andy Rankin, apparently set to move from Huddersfield Town at the end of a month's trial, has stayed on and has recently been in the first team at the expense of Alan Starling. Rankin was a real bargain for Huddersfield Town boss, Mick Buxton, who obtained the player's services without having to pay a transfer fee.

Fred Binney, once way out in front of the scoring charts with Third Division Exeter City, has signed for today's visitors Hereford United and scored on his home debut last Saturday against Halifax Town. Binney was formerly with Brighton and Plymouth Argyle and also scored on his away debut at Darlington.

Blackpool player Brian Wilson has been signed by Torquay United for £15,000 after impressing in a loan period, while Wigan born goalkeeper John Connaughton has opted to leave Port Vale and sign for Alliance Premier League side Altrincham, who will shortly lose the services of Alex Stepney to America.

Off the field Port Vale are the losers, having lost £52,000 last year despite raking in £225,000 from commercial activities.

Bradford City's Scottish midfielder player, John Black recently got in on the scoring act on his debut

against Doncaster Rovers while Portsmouth's Kenny Todd scored his first goal for the club on Saturday against Tranmere Rovers.

Former Crewe player, Paul Bowles, now with Port Vale, has been on trial at Southampton. However, he is likely to return to Vale Park at the end of his stint.

Lincoln City have defender Brendan Guest available, while Huddersfield Town's midfielder player Terry Armstrong is attracting interest.

Billy Horner of Hartlepool United was deservedly announced the Fourth Division's January manager of the Month and he will shortly receive a gallon of Whiskey for his efforts.

## LEAGUE TABLE AS AT 8th FEBRUARY, 1980.

	Home			Goals			Away			Goals		
	P	W	D	L	F	A	P	W	D	L	F	A
Walsall	29	8	6	0	27	12	8	5	2	23	15	43
Huddersfield Town	30	10	2	2	40	13	7	5	4	26	22	41
Portsmouth	29	11	3	2	47	19	5	3	5	17	17	38
Newport County	30	10	5	2	32	18	5	1	7	21	18	36
Bradford City	28	9	4	2	31	10	6	1	6	17	23	35
Torquay United	28	11	3	0	34	11	2	6	6	16	26	35
Aldershot	28	9	2	4	25	12	5	3	5	17	16	33
Wigan Athletic	26	8	2	4	28	20	5	3	4	18	20	31
Peterborough United	30	8	1	5	25	17	4	6	6	12	15	31
Lincoln City	27	8	5	1	26	9	3	3	7	13	22	30
Bournemouth	30	5	5	5	20	17	3	8	4	17	16	29
Hartlepool United	29	8	5	2	27	18	3	2	9	15	22	29
Doncaster Rovers	29	7	3	5	25	22	3	6	5	16	19	29
Tranmere Rovers	28	7	1	5	25	15	3	6	6	13	21	27
Northampton Town	28	10	2	2	24	11	0	4	10	12	39	26
Halifax Town	27	8	4	1	15	7	1	3	10	9	25	25
Stockport County	29	5	5	4	17	19	4	2	9	12	27	25
Hereford United	30	6	5	4	16	12	2	3	10	10	24	24
York City	29	6	4	5	27	23	2	3	9	21	37	23
Darlington	29	5	6	2	20	13	1	4	11	12	35	22
Scunthorpe United	28	7	5	2	23	13	1	1	12	9	36	22
Port Vale	29	5	2	7	20	14	2	4	9	15	34	20
Rochdale	26	3	4	4	12	15	1	4	10	13	38	16
Crewe Alexandra	28	4	4	6	14	20	0	2	12	6	33	14

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TODAY we are pleased to welcome to the ground Mr. Roger Ockenden of 45 Hallyburton Road, Hove, Sussex. Mr. Ockenden is today visiting his ninety-second Football League Ground after seventeen years of steady effort towards achieving this target. If one adds to this, the fact that he follows his own team Brighton, both home and away, and has seen the "Seagulls" play on 77 different grounds, Roger's feat is most commendable. We trust he will enjoy his visit to Springfield Park and take away some happy memories.

Very few people will be aware of the steps which our hard-pressed groundsman, Ronnie Honor, and his willing assistant Tony Broxson had to take to ensure that last Wednesday's game with A.F.C. Bournemouth went ahead despite recent treacherous weather. After last year's use of straw to combat frost, and, in addition to the forking, spiking, rolling and scraping which are their stock methods, Ronnie and Tony this week utilised huge plastic sheets to trap rain water which threatened to create a lake in the centre of the pitch. Supervised by

Head Gardener, Ian McNeill and assisted by other ground staff and supporters, Ronnie and Tony battled through to produce a playable surface, on which our ever-willing players did their usual efficient thing. Thursday morning saw our two heroes back to the old rolling and scraping routine, without which we would not be fortunate enough to have a game to watch today. Well done, the lads!

Just in case there are those who consider Springfield Park to be the home of unfeeling male-chauvinist pigs, we must place on record the debt which the club owes to the two long-suffering ladies of the office block — Mrs. Merle Ward and Mrs. Helen Turner. In addition to performing their usual tasks with their customary good grace and efficiency, Merle and Helen handled the selling of the Everton tickets with very little assistance. Add to this extra work, a jammed switchboard and the very many verbal enquiries dealt with, one can be forgiven for asking the question, "Where would we be without them?"



FROM THE committee and staff of the Supporters' Club, a very good afternoon and welcome once again to Springfield Park. We trust that all our friends from Hereford will enjoy their trip to Wigan and should my old friend from Hereford Supporters' Club, Mick Powell, be with us today, a very special welcome is due.

I would like to take this opportunity of bringing up to date some of the items that have been referred to in previous programmes concerning the club activities.

Firstly, our Bowls' Section have been granted membership of the Orrell and District Bowling League for the season 1980, and whilst two preliminary meetings have been held, an important meeting is scheduled for 8.00 p.m. on Monday, 18th February, and any supporter or member who may be interested in bowls will be welcome in the club on that night.

Secondly, our quiz team completed the "double" over Rochdale A.F.C. and now play at South Liverpool on Thursday night, 14th February, with the incentive of a home fixture with Leeds United or Chesterfield for the winner.

Last Saturday was a great day for two of our popular members who were joined in marriage and the committee and staff extend our sincere congratulations and best wishes for their future happiness to Janet Parkinson and Bill Wigan. It was also a great day for us at the club; first the good news of the first team's win at York, then the second team's convincing win over Chester Reserves, and, to round the day off, a superb act on the stage at night, playing to a capacity house, — Trevor Wallace.



Tonight we are fortunate to have another great artist "Terry B", and shortly on

<b>Sunday, 10th Feb.</b>	— Scott Mason
<b>Saturday, 16th Feb.</b>	— Darren King
<b>Sunday, 17th Feb.</b>	— Tim Curtis
<b>Saturday, 23rd Feb.</b>	— Rob Hunter
<b>Sunday, 24th Feb.</b>	— Alan King

In closing, and with sincere regret, we have to record the death of a life-long supporter of Wigan Athletic, both as regards football and as a club member — Mr. Stanley Broxton. Many of us at the club have lost a personal friend, and to his daughter and son-in-law we offer our deepest sympathy.

Sincerely,  
Peter Woods.



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# A last word from the chairman . . .

ON BEHALF of the Wigan Athletic Football Club, I am delighted to welcome the Chairman, Directors, Staff and Supporters of the Hereford United Football Club to Springfield Park. Hereford United have played their part in the life of the Wigan Athletic Football Club both at non-league and Football League levels. Many of our fans remember the epic F.A. Cup game at Wigan in 1953, and none of those present on the day will ever forget the warm welcome we received when we made our Football League debut at Edgar Street on Saturday, 19th August, 1978. The "bull" presented to us on that occasion holds a treasured place in our Boardroom. After two 0-0 draws in last year's league fixtures, Hereford have already taken two points from us this season, by virtue of a 2-1 victory over our side, at Hereford, in late September. All three games have been tense, closely-fought affairs, and I have little doubt today's encounter will be equally competitive and well-balanced.



We are now well and truly back to the reality of league football after our epic cup run, and the victories over York City and A.F.C. Bournemouth have pushed us right onto the heels of the Fourth Division promotion hopefuls. Every week our team and its supporters appear to grow in stature, and it would be the supreme accolade if, at the end of this already memorable season, we could move up into the Third Division of the Football League.

At the risk of becoming boring, may I again thank our players and supporters for their efforts on behalf of the Wigan Athletic Football Club. My colleagues on the Board of Directors, Ian McNeill and myself believe that the team spirit which is currently being generated can only be for the ultimate benefit of all concerned.

Keep up the good work and enjoy your football.

Sincerely,  
A. O. Horrocks  
Chairman.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'A. O. Horrocks', written over a horizontal line.

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## Teams

**Wigan  
Athletic**  
Royal Blue  
& White Stripes

John Brown	1	Tommy Hughes
Dave Fretwell	2	Val Thomas
Joe Hinnigan	3	Phil Burroughs
Tommy Gore	4	Peter Spiring
Colin Methven	5	John Layton
Neil Davids	6	Kenny Stephens
Frank Corrigan	7	Frank McGrellis
Jeff Wright	8	Julien Marshall
Peter Houghton	9	Fred Binney
Derek Brownbill	10	Dave Jones
George Urquhart	11	Winston White
Tony Quinn	12	Kyle Holmes

**Hereford  
United**  
Black & White

## Officials

### Referee:

**Mr. George M. Tyson**  
(Sunderland)

Commenced refereeing in 1965 and graduated to the Football League list via the Wearside Combination, Wearside League and Northern League. Refereed Northern League Cup Final 1967/77 and was senior Linesman at an Under-21 European Nations Cup match. He is Chairman of the Sunderland Referees Society.

### Linesmen:

**Red Flag**  
**Mr. G.M. McManus**  
(Clwyd)

**Yellow Flag**  
**Mr. James Smith**  
(Liverpool)

## Here next...

**Saturday, 23rd February, 1980. Kick-off 3.00 p.m.**  
**WIGAN ATHLETIC v DONCASTER ROVERS**  
**Football League Division Four**